

**Board of County Commissioners
Leon County, Florida**

Attachments 1
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Date: April 23, 2004
To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Subject: Follow-up to District 1 Community Meeting of April 20, 2004

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation is provided by Bishop Alvin Stewart, Jr. of the Abundant Life & Restoration Ministries International, Inc. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Bill Proctor.

- Chairman Sauls designated Commissioner Proctor as the Chairman for his District meeting.
- Ion Sancho, Supervisor of Elections, provided an update on 2004 Election Issues:
 - Announced that voters registration forms were available for residents to fill out; emphasized importance of making sure addresses were accurate;
 - Discussed the accuracy of Leon County's voting machines and stated the County will continue to use scanning machines, rather than go to "Touch Screen" computers.
 - Reminded voters that they can vote 2 weeks prior to Election Day at the Courthouse; request absentee ballots and vote by mail; and, as usual on Election Day, can vote at the normal precinct or at the Courthouse.
- Ms. Nicole Everett announced that there will be a Tallahassee Lenders Consortium Home Buyer Showcase on Saturday, May 1, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the North Florida Fairgrounds.
- Ms. Rikkia Reliford, FAMU Student, gave an overview of the Saturday Juvenile Program and the type of services provided to juvenile offenders by FAMU students.
- Mr. Buddy Streit from the Big Bend Boys and Girls Club distributed information on the services provided by the Boys and Girls Clubs and announced the Grand Opening of their new administrative building on Tuesday, May 25, 2004 at 5:30 p.m.
- **Commissioner Thaell, without objection, requested OMB appropriate \$200,000 in the FY 04/05 budget for support of the Boys and Girls Club for Board consideration.**

Staff: OMB – Alan Rosenzweig

- Dr. Brenda Jarmon from FAMU's Department of Social Work talked about the Juvenile Assessment Program.
- No school Board member was present to discuss the status of the "new" Southside School at Bond Elementary.
 - Commissioner Rackleff expressed his concern regarding the closing of Wesson Elementary School and the impact on the neighborhood.
 - **Commissioner Proctor, without objection, requested a Joint County/School Board Workshop to discuss Bond and Wesson Elementary Schools**

Staff: Public Services/Planning – Vince Long/Wayne Tedder

- Speakers:
 - Mr. Henderson – stated the Wesson Elementary School neighborhood's disappointment of the School Board's decision to put the "new" school at Bond Elementary and close Wesson Elementary, rather than select a new site for the school.
 - Mr. Demetrius Berks – asked for Board support in assisting FAMU students, who are living in subsidized housing. The property is being sold and the students have been asked to leave – rendering the students "homeless."

Status Reports

5. Special Report on the Southside Women's Health Center
 - Mr. Joe Sharp, Health and Human Services' Director, gave a brief summary of the site visits of Women's Health Centers in Syracuse, New York and Memphis, Tennessee. These site visits were attended by representatives from FAMU, Leon County Commissioner, Board staff, and Bond Community Health Center.
 - Mr. J. R. Richards, CEO for Bond Health Clinic, and Dr. Robinson, Medical Director, together spoke about:
 - procuring funds for services at Bond that are not presently being offered;
 - announced that there will be a "Mother's Day" special - on May 10th, both Health Centers (Bond and Leon County) will provide mammograms, cervical and other female-related cancer screenings for free.
 - Bond is celebrating its 20th Year anniversary
 - **Commissioner Grippa moved, seconded by Commissioner Rackleff, to direct staff to bring forward an RFP to perform a needs assessment for the Southside Women's Clinic.**

The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner Maloy absent.

Staff: Public Services/Health and Human Services – Vince Long/Joe Sharp

6. Review of the Vision for the Redevelopment of the North Florida Fairgrounds
 - Ms. Lillian Bennett, Assistant to the County Administrator, introduced the Fairgrounds Advisory Committee (FAC) members and Mr. Tony Mondae, President of the Strategic Planning Group, the firm conducting the Market Feasibility Study on the Fairgrounds.
 - Ms. Elizabeth Robertson, FAC member, provided a summary of the FAC report on the redevelopment of the Fairgrounds.
 - Mr. Mondae gave an update on the Market Feasibility Study and requested citizens who are interested in the redevelopment of the Fairgrounds, provide input to the committee and the Strategic Planning Group.

2. Update on Southern Strategies Initiatives (Public Services/Planning - Vincent Long/Wayne Tedder)
 - Mr. Wayne Tedder, Planning Director, gave a brief overview of the Southern Strategies Initiatives and Economic Development Plan for the Southern Strategy Area.
 - There is a South Monroe Sector Plan being developed that will have \$10 million available.
3. Update on B. L. Perry Library, 2000-2004
 - Ms. Cay Hohmeister provided the Board with a summary of the increase, from 2000 – 2003, in the number of library services, library programs and book circulation at the Library.

* *Status reports #1 and #4 were tabled.*

Citizens to be Heard

- Mr. Mike Blankenship, a business owner in the Southside, complained about the traffic problems on S. Monroe and Woodville Highway at peak morning and afternoon hours. He requested the Board look into road improvements on this corridor and for staff to contact FDOT about widening Woodville Highway.
 - Commissioner Grippa moved that staff review options regarding what road improvements could be made.
 - **Commissioner Thaell moved, seconded by Commissioner Rackleff, to direct staff to bring back an agenda item regarding recommendations for road widening and improvements on S. Monroe Street and Woodville Highway, and requested staff look into renaming S. Monroe Street, between Orange Avenue and Capital Circle SW, to Southside Boulevard**
 - **The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner Maloy absent.**

Staff: GEM/Development Services – Gary Johnson/David McDevitt
Public Works/Engineering – Tony Park/Joe Brown

- Ms. Cheryl Gonzalez, Capital City Chamber, introduced several Leon County M/WBE vendors.

Resolutions

- Commissioner Proctor presented a resolution to Ms. Pam Hightower, Leon County's Distinguished Minority Educator of the Year, recognizing her accomplishments as Principal of Wesson Elementary School and in raising the students' FCAT scores at the school.

- Commissioner Proctor presented resolutions, recognizing the efforts of District 1 Community and Spiritual Leaders, to the following:

Rev. Ernest Ferrell, St. Mary's Primitive Baptist Church

Rev. Charles Morris, Anderson Chapel AME

Rev. John Green, Bethel AME

Rev. R.B. Holmes, Bethel Baptist Church

Rev. Leroy Colson, Church Times

Elder Edward Gaines, St. John's Missionary Baptist Church

Bishop Alvin Stewart, Abundant Life & Restoration Ministries International, Inc.

Rev. William Isaac Foutz, Mount Pisby Primitive Baptist Church

Rev. Craig P. Riley, Greater Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

Rev. Stanley Walker, Tabernacle Baptist Church

Rev. Calvin McFadden, Ray of Hope United Methodist Church

Rev. Herman Davis, Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Pastor Rosalind Thompkins, Mothers in Crisis, Inc.

Rev. Clinton Smith

Elder Ralph Wilson, Presiding Elder of AME Church

Rev. S. L. Phillips

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- Commissioner Proctor distributed an Add-on agenda item requested mid-year funding introduced the Sports-My-Choice Tallahassee Eagles Travel Basketball Team.

- **Commissioner Grippa moved, seconded by Commissioner Sauls, to approve the mid-year funding request of \$2500 for the Tallahassee Eagles to travel to the events in Tampa and Port St. Lucie.**

The motion carried 6-1, with Commissioner Maloy absent.

Staff: OMB – Alan Rosenzweig

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 9:15.